TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE
Division of Workers' Compensation - Medical Fee Dispute Resolution (MS-48)
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MEDICAL FEE DISPUTE RESOLUTION FINDINGS AND DECISION

GENERAL INFORMATION

Requestor Name
IKECHUKWU J. OBIH, MD

Respondent Name
STATE OFFICE OF RISK MANAGEMENT

MFDR Tracking Number
M4-16-3738-01

Carrier's Austin Representative
Box Number 45

MFDR Date Received
AUGUST 18, 2016

REQUESTOR'S POSITION SUMMARY

Requestor's Position Summary: "The carrier has not paid this claim in accordance and compliance with TDI-DWC Rule 133 and 134."

Amount in Dispute: $278.61

RESPONDENT'S POSITION SUMMARY

Respondent's Position Summary: "A request for reconsideration was received on 6/27/2015 where an audit denied the request for reconsideration of CPT code 99204 and A4556. Pursuant to recent MFDR Decisions issued…regarding HCPC A4556; the Division found that this code is an incident to a physician service performed on that day therefore not separately payable pursuant to Medicare transmittal B-03-020…CPT code 99204 and determined that the medical documentation supports the testing results, however fail to establish how this patient is a new patient being that the Designated Doctor referred the claimant for testing only and Dr. Ikechukwu Obih MD had previously seen this injured employee on 6/3/2015 where he also performed an EMG/NCS."

Response Submitted By: SORM

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Dates of Service	Disputed Services	Amount In Dispute	Amount Due
March 30, 2016	CPT Code 99204 New Patient Office Visit	$261.71	$0.00
	CPT Code 95886 Needle EMG	$0.00	$0.00
	CPT Code 95910 Nerve Conduction Studies (7-8)	$0.00	$0.00
	HCPCS Code A4556 Electrodes	$16.90	$0.00
TOTAL		$278.61	$0.00

FINDINGS AND DECISION

This medical fee dispute is decided pursuant to Texas Labor Code §413.031 and all applicable, adopted rules of the Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation.

Background

1. 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307 sets out the procedures for resolving medical fee disputes.
2. 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.203, effective March 1, 2008, sets the reimbursement guidelines for the disputed service.
3. The services in dispute were reduced / denied by the respondent with the following reason code:
   - B16-Payment adjusted because 'new patient' qualifications were not met.
   - 886-The procedure was inappropriately billed. The provider has previously billed for an initial/evaluation visit.
   - 243-The charge for this procedure was not paid since the value of this procedure is included /bundled within the value of another procedure performed.
   - 97-Payment adjusted because the benefit for this service is included in the payment/allowance for another service/procedure that has already been adjudicated.
   - W3-Additional payment made on appeal/reconsideration.

Issues

1. Were the new patient qualifications met to support billing CPT code 99204?
2. Was CPT code 99204 billed in accordance with28 Texas Administrative Code §134.203(a)(5)?
3. Is the benefit for HCPCS code A4556 included in the benefit of another service billed on the disputed date? Is the requestor entitled to reimbursement for HCPCS code A4556?

Findings

1. Per 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.203(a)(5), "Medicare payment policies" when used in this section, shall mean reimbursement methodologies, models, and values or weights including its coding, billing, and reporting payment policies as set forth in the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) payment policies specific to Medicare."

   CPT code 99204 is defined as "Office or other outpatient visit for the evaluation and management of a new patient, which requires these 3 key components: A comprehensive history; A comprehensive examination; Medical decision making of moderate complexity. Counseling and/or coordination of care with other physicians, other qualified health care professionals, or agencies are provided consistent with the nature of the problem(s) and the patient's and/or family's needs. Usually, the presenting problem(s) are of moderate to high severity. Typically, 45 minutes are spent face-to-face with the patient and/or family."

   The respondent contends that reimbursement is not due because "B16-Payment adjusted because 'new patient' qualifications were not met," and "886-The procedure was inappropriately billed. The provider has previously billed for an initial/evaluation visit." In support of the position the respondent submitted a copy of a bill from the requestor for code 99204 rendered on June 3, 2015; therefore, the respondent is correct the disputed service does not meet the qualifications as a new patient. .

2. On the disputed date of service, the requestor billed for CPT code 99204, 95910, 95886 and A4556.

   The Division referred to Medicare's coding and billing policies and finds that CPT code 95886 has a global surgery period of "ZZZ" and code 95910 "XXX.

   The National Correct Coding Initiative Policy Manual, effective January 1, 2016, Chapter I, General Correct Coding Policies, section D, states:

All procedures on the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule are assigned a Global period of 000, 010, 090, XXX, YYY, ZZZ, or MMM. The global concept does not apply to XXX procedures. The global period for YYY procedures is defined by the Carrier (A/B MAC processing practitioner service claims). All procedures with a global period of ZZZ are related to another procedure, and the applicable global period for the ZZZ code is determined by the related procedure… Procedures with a global surgery indicator of "XXX" are not covered by these rules. Many of these "XXX" procedures are performed by physicians and have inherent pre-procedure, intra-procedure, and post-procedure work usually performed each time the procedure is completed. This work should never be reported as a separate E&M code. Other "XXX" procedures are not usually performed by a physician and have no physician work relative value units associated with them. A physician should never report a separate E&M code with these procedures for the supervision of others performing the procedure or for the interpretation of the procedure. With most "XXX" procedures, the physician may, however, perform a significant and separately identifiable E&M service on the same date of service which may be reported by appending modifier 25 to the E&M code. This E&M service may be related to the same diagnosis necessitating performance of the "XXX" procedure but cannot include any work inherent in the "XXX" procedure, supervision of others performing the "XXX" procedure, or time for interpreting the result of the "XXX" procedure. Appending modifier 25 to a significant, separately identifiable E&M service when performed on the same date of service as an "XXX' procedure is correct coding.

The Division finds that the requestor did not identify a significant and separate E&M service to support billing CPT code 99204 in conjunction with CPT codes 95886 and 95910. In addition, the requestor did not append modifier 25 to CPT code 99204 to identify a separate service per the correct coding guidelines. Therefore, the Division finds that the requestor's documentation did not support billing CPT code 99204. As a result, reimbursement is not recommended.

3. HCPCS code A4556 is defined as "Electrodes (e.g., apnea monitor), per pair."

   The respondent denied reimbursement for HCPCS code A4556 based upon reason code "97."
   Per Medicare guidelines, Transmittal B-03-020, effective February 28, 2003 if Durable Medical Equipment Prosthetics Orthotics and Supplies (DMEPOS) HCPCS codes are incidental to the physician service, it is not separately payable. A review of the submitted documentation does not support a separate service to support billing HCPCS code A4556. As a result, reimbursement is not recommended.

Conclusion

For the reasons stated above, the Division finds that the requestor has not established that additional reimbursement is due.

ORDER

Based upon the documentation submitted by the parties and in accordance with the provisions of Texas Labor Code §413.031, the Division has determined that the requestor is entitled to $0.00 reimbursement for the disputed services.

Authorized Signature

		09/21/2016
Signature	Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Officer	Date

YOUR RIGHT TO APPEAL

Either party to this medical fee dispute has a right to seek review of this decision in accordance with 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307, 37 *Texas Register* 3833, applicable to disputes filed on or after June 1, 2012.

A party seeking review must submit a **Request to Schedule a Benefit Review Conference to Appeal a Medical Fee Dispute Decision** (form **DWC045M**) in accordance with the instructions on the form. The request must be received by the Division within **twenty** days of your receipt of this decision. The request may be faxed, mailed or personally delivered to the Division using the contact information listed on the form or to the field office handling the claim.

The party seeking review of the MFDR decision shall deliver a copy of the request to all other parties involved in the dispute at the same time the request is filed with the Division. **Please include a copy of the *Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Findings and Decision*** together with any other required information specified in 28 Texas Administrative Code §141.1(d).

Si prefiere hablar con una persona en español acerca de ésta correspondencia, favor de llamar a 512-804-4812.